



Kansas Bureau of Investigation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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UPDATE: Arrest made in homicide case in Montgomery County

MONTGOMERY COUNTY– The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) and the Independence Police Department made an arrest connected to the homicide of 19-year-old Kimberly D. Meeks that occurred Saturday, Dec. 14.

On Sunday afternoon, Dec. 15, 18-year-old Benjamin J. Mason was arrested at his residence in Coffeyville for first-degree murder. Mason was then booked into the Montgomery County Jail.

The Montgomery County Attorney is expected to prosecute the case. The investigation is ongoing.

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Homicide investigation in Montgomery County

MONTGOMERY COUNTY– The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI), the Independence Police Department, and the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office are investigating the homicide of a 19-year-old that occurred in Independence, Kan. on Saturday evening.

The Independence Police Department requested KBI assistance at approximately 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14. Special agents and the Crime Scene Response Team responded.

At approximately 6 p.m. Saturday, the Independence Police Department received a 911 call from a citizen who reported hearing gunshots. When officers responded they found a female victim who had been shot near the intersection of Laurel St. and Main St. The female was pronounced dead at the scene. She was later identified as 19-year-old Kimberly D. Meeks of Coffeyville.

Preliminary information indicates that Meeks and a white male were walking on foot in the area when an unknown person in a car fired gunshots at them and fled. The male accompanying Meeks, who is approximately 19-years-old, also ran from the area.

Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged to call the KBI at 1-800-KS-CRIME, or the Independence Police Department at (620) 332-1700. Callers may remain anonymous.

The investigation is ongoing. Nothing further will be released at this time.

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